

Introduced by Senator Dutton

February 21, 2006

An act to add Section 42238.05 to the Education Code, relating to education finance, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1357, as introduced, Dutton. School districts: average per-pupil funding: equalization.

Existing law requires a county superintendent of schools to determine a revenue limit for each school district within the county, as prescribed. Existing law requires that the average daily attendance be computed based on the 2nd principal apportionment regular average daily attendance for either the current fiscal year or the prior fiscal year, whichever is greater. Existing law requires the base revenue limit to be multiplied by the district average daily attendance, and provides for apportionments to school districts based on average daily attendance computations, pursuant to a prescribed formula.

This bill would require the Director of Finance, after the amount of the 2nd principal apportionment to school districts is determined, to calculate the average amount of funds expended per pupil statewide for that fiscal year, as specified. The bill would require the Director of Finance to make certain calculations to determine the amount of funding necessary to ensure that each school district receives at least the average amount of funds, described above, per pupil.

The bill would continuously appropriate, without regard to fiscal year, from the General Fund to the Superintendent, for allocation to school districts that receive less than the average amount of funding, described above, per pupil, the sum determined by the Director of Finance that is necessary to ensure that each school district receives at least the average amount of funds, described above, per pupil.

The bill would require the Superintendent to allocate, annually, the above-described funds to those school districts.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 42238.05 is added to the Education
- 2 Code, to read:
- 3 42238.05. (a) Each year, after the amounts of the second
- 4 principal apportionments to school districts are determined, the
- 5 Director of Finance shall calculate the amount of funds expended
- 6 per pupil by each school district and also the average statewide
- 7 amount of funds expended per pupil by all school districts for
- 8 that fiscal year. This calculation shall not include categorical aid
- 9 funding or any federal funding. This calculation shall include all
- 10 school districts, as defined in subdivision (c), regardless of
- 11 whether the school district receives from the state an
- 12 apportionment of state funds pursuant to subdivision (h) of
- 13 Section 42238.
- 14 (b) For a school district in which the amount of funds
- 15 expended per pupil for that fiscal year is less than the average
- 16 amount of funds expended per pupil for that fiscal year, the
- 17 Director of Finance shall calculate for that school district the
- 18 difference between the average statewide amount of funds
- 19 expended per pupil for that fiscal year and the amount of funds
- 20 expended per pupil for that school district, as determined
- 21 pursuant to subdivision (a), multiplied by the number of pupils in
- 22 that district.
- 23 (c) The Director of Finance shall determine the amount of
- 24 funds necessary, statewide, to ensure that each school district
- 25 described in subdivision (b) receives sufficient funds to equal the
- 26 average statewide amount of funds expended per pupil for that
- 27 fiscal year, as determined pursuant to subdivision (a).
- 28 (d) There is hereby continuously appropriated, without regard
- 29 to fiscal year, from the General Fund to the Superintendent, for
- 30 allocation to school districts described in subdivision (b), the sum
- 31 determined by the Director of Finance pursuant to subdivision
- 32 (c).

1 (e) The Superintendent shall allocate the funds described in
2 subdivision (d) to school districts, annually, to ensure that each
3 school district receives funding that is equal to the average
4 statewide amount of funds expended per pupil for that fiscal year,
5 as determined pursuant to subdivision (a).

6 (f) For purposes of this section, “school district” includes a
7 school district and a county office of education.

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